

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-7 are pending in the application, with claims 1-3 and 5-7 being the independent claims. The amendments are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,831

Reg. No. 44,679

Date: May 27, 2005

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

401727_1.DOC